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LEBEAU THELEN, LLP

THE ATRIUM

5001 E. COMMERCENTER DRIVE, SUITE 300 BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA 93309

August 10, 2007

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OF COUNSEL: J. SUZANNE HILL

ANDREW K. SHEFFIELD

Via Facsimile, E-Mail & U.S. Mail

Douglas J. Evertz, Esq. STRADLING, YOCCA, CARLSON & RAUTH 660 Newport Center Drive, Suite 1600 Newport Beach, CA 92660-6522

John Tootle, Esq. California Water Service Company 2632 West 237th Street Torrance, CA 90505

James L. Markman, Esq. RICHARDS WATSON & GERSHON Post Office Box 1059 Brea, CA 92822-1059 Thomas Bunn, Esq. LAGERLOF, SENECAL, BRADLEY, et al. 301 North Lake Avenue, 10th Floor Pasadena, California 91101-4108

Wayne K. Lemieux, Esq. Lemieux & O'Neill 2393 Townsgate Road, Suite 201 Westlake Village, CA 91361

Re: Antelope Valley Groundwater Adjudication Court Ordered Meet and Confer/Status

Gentlemen:

First, let me thank each of you for participating in the face-to-face meet-and-confer held in Mr. Lemieux's office this morning. I also thank Mr. Evertz for authorizing Mr. Markman to appear on his behalf and that of his client in an effort to resolve the discovery issues. Substantively, it appears that we agreed at least in the short term to disagree. But in order to preserve the present circumstance, we did substantively agree to enter into a stipulation to suspend the discovery dispute as between each of your respective clients and yourselves, and my client and myself. We agreed that we would defer the matter for a period of thirty days from today's date, and then, attempt one more time to resolve the dispute by a telephone conference meet and confer for that purpose.

Mr. Lemieux was gracious enough to volunteer to prepare a stipulation and order which would confirm that we will suspend our efforts for a period of thirty days and will resume our efforts

LEBEAU - THELEN, LLP

Counsel for Public Water Suppliers August 10, 2007 Page 2

by conference telephone call in the hopes of resolving the dispute amicably. Additionally, the stipulation will provide for an order by Judge Komar extending the period of time within which I will be otherwise required to bring a motion to compel for an additional thirty days following September 10, 2007, i.e., the anticipated date for our conference call.

Based upon our efforts this morning, it appears that the propriety of the discovery is not seriously challenged, but it is primarily an issue of timing as to when: (1) you would reasonably be able to provide substantive factual responses; and/or (2) when should my client have a right to expect those responses in relationship to anticipated trial proceedings and/or the possibility of a motion for summary judgment. Although we discussed a number of various time lines, I expressed my concerns that the discovery was likewise necessary to the now-changed posture for class certification arising out of the most recent points and authorities filed on behalf of all public water suppliers by Best, Best & Krieger. I advised in our conversation this morning, that I intended to renew my previous objection given that I perceive the present effort by the public water suppliers as an attempt to achieve through the backdoor what was not sought by timely filing a motion to certify a defendant class on the amended class action cross-complaint. Whether right or wrong, it is none the less my view that as a legal matter, as well as an evidentiary and proof matter, that the prescription claims asserted by each and all of you cannot be, or minimally should not be, litigated on a class wide basis and specifically against nominally represented active pumpers. I reiterated that the inquiry of necessity would require an assessment of a number of factual circumstances unique to each separate parcel and each separate landowner. I concede that we agree to disagree, but the issue is significantly important that I feel compelled to preserve it, if nothing else, for the record and potential appellate purposes.

In closing, it is very likely that by deferring the issue for a period of thirty days, we may then be in a better position to assess the significance and/or the timing necessity of the discovery for class certification purposes. In closing, thank you for your committed time and efforts, and hopefully we can yet resolve the matter.

BOB H. JOYCE

BHJ:nm

cc: Jeffrey A. Green, Esq.

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5001 East Commercenter Drive, #300 Post Office Box 12092 Bakersfield, California 93389-2092

TELECOPIER TRANSMISSION

DATED:

August 10, 2007

TO:

Douglas J. Evertz John Tootle Thomas Bunn Wayne K. Lemieux James L. Markman (949) 725-4100 (310) 325-5658

(626) 793-5900 (805) 495-2787

(805) 495-2787 (714) 990-6230

FROM:

BOB H. JOYCE, ESQ. LeBEAU • THELEN, LLP

5001 East Commercenter Drive, #300

Post Office Box 12092

Bakersfield, California 93389-2092

Telephone: (661) 325-8962 Facsimile: (661) 325-1127

RE:

Antelope Valley Groundwater Cases

JUDICIAL COUNSEL PROCEEDING NO. 4408

CASE NO.: 1-05-CV-049053

Number of pages sent $\frac{3}{2}$ (including transmission page).

INSTRUCTIONS (IF ANY): <u>Diamond's 8/10 ltr re In-Person Meet & Confer</u>

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| 2196 | Aug-10-2007 04:40 PM | Send | 16267935900 | 0:47 | 3 | Success |

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| 2194 | Aug-10-2007 04:35 PM | Send | 18054952787 | 0:52 | 3 | Success |

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From:

James L. Markman [JMarkman@rwglaw.com]

To:

Donna Luis

Sent:

Subject:

Friday, August 10, 2007 4:48 PM Read: FW: Antelope Valley Groundwater Adjudication - Court Ordered Meet and Confer

Your message

To:

JMarkman@rwglaw.com

Subject:

was read on 8/10/2007 4:48 PM.

From:

Donna Luis

Sent:

Friday, August 10, 2007 4:35 PM

To:

'devertz@sycr.com'; jtootle@calwater.com; 'tombunn@lagerlof.com'; 'wayne@lemieux-

oneill.com'; 'James L. Markman'

Subject:

FW: Antelope Valley Groundwater Adjudication - Court Ordered Meet and Confer

Attachments:

Document.pdf

Attached please find our correspondence regarding above matter. Thank you.

Donna M. Luis

Assistant to Bob H. Joyce

From:

Donna Luis

Sent:

Friday, August 10, 2007 4:46 PM

To:

'Tom Bunn'

Subject:

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Attachments:

Document.pdf

From: Donna Luis

Sent: Friday, August 10, 2007 4:35 PM

To: 'devertz@sycr.com'; jtootle@calwater.com; 'tombunn@lagerlof.com'; 'wayne@lemieux-oneill.com'; 'James L.

Markman'

Subject: FW: Antelope Valley Groundwater Adjudication - Court Ordered Meet and Confer

Attached please find our correspondence regarding above matter. Thank you.

Donna M. Luis

Assistant to Bob H. Joyce

From:

System Administrator

To:

tombunn@lagerlof.com

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Friday, August 10, 2007 4:35 PM

Subject:

resent @ 4:46 pm Undeliverable: FW: Antelope Valley Groundwater Adjudication - Court Ordered Meet and

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From:

Tootle, John [JTootle@calwater.com]

To:

Sent:

undisclosed-recipients
Monday, August 13, 2007 7:49 AM

Subject:

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wayne@lemieux-oneill.com Monday, August 13, 2007 12:57 PM Read: Antelope Valley Groundwater Adjudication - Court Ordered Meet and Confer

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